

March 1, 2016

Member of the Committee:

My name is Ashley Bates and ***I am writing in support of SB292 which concerns the licensure of certified behavior analysts in the state of Connecticut.*** I am a lifelong resident of Oxford, CT and have been a practicing board certified behavior analyst (BCBA) in the state since 2012. Board certified behavior analysts in our state and across the country provide evidenced-based and highly-effective treatments for clients with autism and other behavioral disabilities. These clients and their families are deserving of the highest quality services, which are currently provided by those that hold a board certification in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). Our neighboring states of Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island all currently recognize this important profession with licensure, along with 21 additional states. There are currently 548 board certified behavior analysts in the state of Connecticut and passing this bill is an imperative step in protecting these professionals and the clients they service. *Thank you for considering my statement of support, and with that, the protection of quality Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services in our state for consumers and their families.*

Warm Regards,

Ashley M. Bates, M.A., BCBA

Senior Behavior Analyst; Connecticut Center for Child Development, Inc.

Resident of Oxford, CT